

Although the discussions on atomic power attracted the widest general attention, the valuable reports of work in such fields as raw materials, basic physics and chemistry, medicine and biology, and the applications of radio-isotopes deserve mention, as do the interesting and useful exhibits of the products of atomic technology arranged by many of the participating nations.

It has been pointed out often enough that the origins of atomic science are international, that the pioneers in this field come from many lands, and that "science knows no boundaries." With these thoughts in mind it is perhaps not inappropriate to suggest that one of the most valuable features of the conference was the opportunity it gave to the nations with large and long-established atomic energy programmes to repay their debt to international science by making information acquired in secrecy during the past fifteen years available for the benefit of all.

The political implications of the Conference have not been less significant. There is no doubt that together with the Summit meeting and the San Francisco commemorative meeting it was conceived and organized as an expression of a new mood in international affairs, a mood which we hope will not be transitory. With the other meetings just mentioned, the scientific conference provides the proof that when there is a will to co-operate, to approach problems with moderation and in a positive fashion, impressive results can be achieved.

The Conference which has provided a concrete proof of the new spirit has in turn contributed to an improvement in the international scene. In the course of our general debate, many speakers have referred to it as one of the reasons why we should face our problems with greater confidence in the assurance that as a result of such meetings, in spite of diverse opinions and interests, the new international climate favours the development of more delicate and complex projects than we could have undertaken before. Nothing succeeds like success.

The achievements of the Conference also demonstrate that in an improved international situation the United Nations Organization can play a more influential role: by the same occasion, it has been conclusively shown that our organization can be equal to the opportunities that are offered and through timely and effective intervention it can ensure that all of us will derive the maximum benefits which such opportunities can provide.

And now I should like to say a word about the progress being made toward the establishment of an International Atomic Energy Agency.

At the ninth General Assembly Canada had the honour to be one of the co-sponsors of the resolution, adopted unanimously, which dealt with the proposed establishment of an International Atomic Energy Agency. What progress has been made in carrying out the terms of the resolution? If I may borrow a saying from my medical friends, "Slower than hoped for but much better than expected."

The drafting of a constitution which will ensure the establishment of the Agency on a sound foundation, so that it will be able to fulfil its role with maximum effectiveness and with the greatest measure of support from potential member nations, has admittedly been complex and difficult. However, by the time of the conference on the peaceful uses of atomic